

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01  
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05  
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05  
SS-15 STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 SP-02 SOE-02  
OMB-01 DOE-11 NEA-10 /137 W  
-----104933 211004Z /17

R 210848Z FEB 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1970  
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
USMISSION GENEVA

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USMTN

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ETRD, GATT, MTN, RP  
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT MARCOS APPOINTS VEGA AS SPECIAL TRADE  
REPRESENTATIVE

1. PRESIDENT MARCOS HAS APPOINTED AMBASSADOR WILFREDO VEGA  
AS SPECIAL TRADE REPRESENTATIVE WITH THE RANK OF UNDERSECRE-  
TARY OF TRADE AND AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PELINPOTEN-  
TIARY. AS STR, VEGA WOULD ACT AS GOP REPRESENTATIVE TO GATT  
AND THE MTN. HE WOULD ALSO HEAD THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE  
REGIONAL OFFICE IN FRANKFURT AND ITS REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE  
IN TEHRAN.

2. VEGA TOOK HIS OATH OF OFFICE ON FEBRUARY 17 FROM SECRE-  
TARY OF TRADE TROADION T. QUIZON, JR. APPOINTMENT WAS PUB-  
LICIZED IN THE PRESS OVER THE WEEKEND.

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3. VEGA'S OTHER DUTIES WERE DESCRIBED AS ASSISTING PHILIPPINE  
BUSINESSMEN IN SECURING MARKETS AND CONTRACTS IN EUROPE  
AND THE MIDDLE EAST, AND FACILITATING JOINT VENTURE PRO-  
JECTS. HE WAS ALSO TO PERFORM SUCH OTHER TASKS AS THE  
PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY OF TRADE MAY ASSIGN TO HIM.  
VEGA WILL AUTOMATICALLY REVERT BACK TO THE FOREIGN SER-  
VICE ON JANUARY 1, 1982 UNLESS THE PRESIDENT DECIDES

OTHERWISE.

3. COMMENT: VEGA'S APPOINTMENT FORMALIZES HIS WIDE-RANGING EMPIRE WHICH NOW INCLUDES THE MIDDLE EAST. SIGNIFICANCE OF APPOINTMENT, HOWEVER, LIES IN SHIFT OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR GATT AND MTN FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE. SENIOR TRADE OFFICIALS ARE POSITIVELY GLOATING OVER THEIR COUP OVER DFA WHICH WAS DESCRIBED AS "COMPLETELY SURPRISED" BY THE PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENT. ON THE OTHER HAND, ONE OF OUR REGULAR DFA ECONOMIC CONTACTS CHARACTERIZED THE APPOINTMENT AS "HASTY" AND AS FAR AS HE WAS CONCERNED, VEGA WAS STILL DEPUTY AMBASSADOR IN BONN. GOP-WIDE COORDINATION STILL REMAINS WITH INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON TRADE, TARIFFS AND RELATED MATTERS (TTRM), CHAIRED BY NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (NEDA), GENERALLY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL FILOLOGO PANTE.  
STULL

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TRADE, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 feb 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978MANILA02823  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 04 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3537348  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESIDENT MARCOS APPOINTS VEGA AS SPECIAL TRADE REPRESENTATIVE  
**TAGS:** ETRD, RP, GATT, MTN, (VEGA, WILFREDO)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014